

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 PM-04 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 DODE-00 AID-05 IGA-02 MC-02 ACDA-07 SSO-00
NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 L-03 H-01 /062 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/PAB:DBARCHARD:YW
APPROVED BY NEA/PAB:PWLANDE
PM/SAS:SWINSHIP
T:JORDAN(INFO)

----- 035036 /67

O R 162231Z DEC 76 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY DACCA NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 305325

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, BG, US

SUBJECT: MILITARY SUPPLIES AND TRAINING FOR BANGLADESH

1. YOU ARE AUTHORIZED TO INFORM THE BDG THAT, FOLLOWING
UP ON EARLIER CONVERSATIONS, THE USG IS PREPARED TO
INSTITUTE A MODEST GRANT MILITARY TRAINING PROGRAM IN
FY 77. WE ARE ALSO PREPARED TO SELL TO THE BDG A VESSEL
WHICH CAN BE CONVERTED TO FUNCTION AS A HYDROGRAPHIC
SHIP IF THE BDG IS INTERESTED AND APPROPRIATE INTERNAL
USG APPROVALS ARE OBTAINED. DETAILS ARE GIVEN IN PARAS
2-4 BELOW. WE PLAN TO INFORM THE BANGLADESH EMBASSY LATE
ON DECEMBER 17.

2. WE HAVE SET ASIDE 50,000 DOLLARS TO BE USED FOR
TRAINING FOR BANGLADESH MILITARY PERSONNEL IN FY 77. WE
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STILL HAVE TO SORT OUT WITH DOD JUST WHAT PROGRAMS ARE
AVAILABLE, BUT WE HOPE TO OFFER SOMETHING TO EACH SERVICE
AND TO AIM FOR STAFF AND COMMAND TYPE COURSES. DETAILS
OF THE OFFER WILL BE PROVIDED SHORTLY.

3. THE SHIP WHICH WE HAVE IN MIND IS IN THE NAVY'S

INVENTORY. DETAILS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

TYPE: COASTAL MINESWEEPER

YEAR BUILT: 1955

LENGTH: 144 FT.

DRAFT: 9 FT.

TONNAGE: 320

POWER PLANT: DIESEL ELECTRIC

CREW REQUIRED: APPROXIMATELY 12

CONDITION: FAIR TO GOOD

PRICE: (ESTIMATED, EXCLUDING COST OF REHABILITATIONS
AND REPAIR) 35,000 DOLLARS

COST OF REHABILITATION, REPAIR, AND EQUIPPING: THIS
WOULD REQUIRE A FORMAL SURVEY, BUT A SIMILAR SHIP WAS
REPAIRED AND OUTFITTED FOR HYDROGRAPHIC PURPOSES, AND
WAS OPERATED FOR 18 MONTHS FOR A TOTAL COST OF 350,000
DOLLARS.

AVAILABILITY: APRIL 1977 (SUBJECT TO SATISFACTORY
COMPLETION OF WASHINGTON INTER-AGENCY STAFFING, A
PRESIDENTIAL DETERMINATION OF BANGLADESH'S ELIGIBILITY
TO RECEIVE THE SHIP, AND 30 DAYS NOTICE TO CONGRESS.)

4. THE SHIP WAS DECOMMISSIONED FROM THE RESERVE FLEET
AND TRANSFERRED TO THE OCEANOGRAPHER OF THE NAVY IN
OCTOBER 1975 FOR CONVERSION AND USE AS A HYDROGRAPHIC
SHIP. HOWEVER, IT WAS NEVER CONVERTED. SHOULD THE
BANGLADESHIS ACQUIRE THE SHIP, NAVY RECOMMENDS THAT THE
BDG GIVE CONSIDERATION TO ENROLLING STUDENTS IN
APPROPRIATE HYDROGRAPHIC COURSES CONDUCTED FOR FOREIGN
STUDENTS BY THE NAVY OCEANOGRAPHER'S OFFICE.
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ROBINSON

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NNN

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